



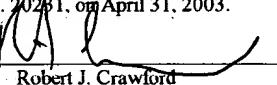
2634  
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SHAEFFER et al. Examiner: Lugo, D.B.  
Serial No.: 09/310,598 Group Art Unit: 2634  
Filed: May 12, 1999 Docket No.: STFD.005PA  
(S98-105)

Title: NOISE-REDUCING ARRANGEMENT AND METHOD FOR SIGNAL  
PROCESSING

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence and the papers, as described hereinabove, are being sent via U.S. Postal Service to the attention of Examiner Lugo and addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 31, 2003.

By:   
Robert J. Crawford

OFFICE ACTION RESPONSE  
**RECEIVED**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

APR 09 2003  
Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action dated December 31, 2002, please reconsider the application in view of the following remarks:

**Remarks**

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks. For the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is allowable over the cited references.

The non-final Office Action also presented the following four rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and each based on a combination of two references *Berthoumieux et al.* (EP Patent No. 0 447 302) in view of *Scott* (U.S. Patent No. 5,959,980); specifically, the Office Action maintained that: claims 1-4 and 7-10 stand rejected under §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Berthoumieux* in view of *Scott*; claims 5 and 6 stand rejected under §103(a) as being unpatentable